

# On the Go Newsletter

September 2010

## Iowa Commission on Latino Affairs

### Nomination Deadline for Mary Campos Award Extended

The Iowa Commission on Latino Affairs would like to extend the nomination deadline for the Mary Campos Award, which is an award created in 2006 by the Commission to identify a private or non-profit organization that has made significant contributions through internal changes or outreach efforts to serve the Latino community above and beyond what is considered the norm to improve the quality of life of the Iowa Latino community.

The award will be presented, on October 16, 2010 at the Iowa Latino Conference held in Iowa City, along with the Robert D. Ray Iowa Latino Ambassador Award at the 12th Annual Strengthening and Valuing Latina/o Communities in Iowa Conference (aka the Iowa Latino Conference).

#### Nomination Form:

To nominate an outstanding Iowan who has improved the lives of the Latino community, please fill out the nomination form. All entries must be typed and submitted electronically by **Friday, September 24, 2010**. Any person or group may submit a nomination.

#### Questions:

If you have any questions, contact Melissa Esquivel, Executive Officer of Latino Affairs at 515-281-4080 or [Melissa.esquivel@iowa.gov](mailto:Melissa.esquivel@iowa.gov).

## Community Announcements & Services

- [Eloy Barragan: Choreographer, Dancer, Teacher](#)

## News

- [Secretary of Labor Hilda L. Solis: Labor Day Address](#)
- [On the Lake Shore Limited](#)
- [Fighting Back Against Copycat Immigration Laws Like Arizona](#)
- [Unauthorized Immigrants and Their U.S.-Born Children](#)
- [Dream vs. Reality: An Analysis of Potential DREAM Act Beneficiaries](#)
- [America's Future: Latino Child Well-Being in Numbers and Trends](#)

## Data Resources

- [Latinos in Iowa: 2010 - Data Sheet](#)
- [New Demographic Realities: Iowa](#)

## Flood Resources

- [Red Cross Response](#)

## Film Series / Discussions on Immigration Trinity United Methodist, 8th & College, Des Moines 4 PM every fourth Sunday, starting 8/22/10

The faith community of Trinity United Methodist/Las Americas Comunidad de Fe would like to help widen and deepen the discussion of immigration issues by inviting you to a series of films on a variety of immigration issues, to be held the fourth Sunday of each month, followed by a shared meal and discussion. Offerings will include such films as In the Shadow of the Raid (Postville aftermath and issues); Made in LA (undocumented worker issues); Dying to Live (border crossing realities); Which Way Home (children seeking to reach the US to join parents); and Siete Soles. We especially hope to bring together our immigrant community with the sincere and caring people we know whose energies have been directed to other social issues and who have doubts or uncertainties about immigration. Please come prepared to share and deepen your awareness and understanding of immigration issues and let us form bonds with each other in the shared search for healing and change in our immigration policy. For more information please call Trinity (288-4056) or Las Americas (280-8426).

## Upcoming Community Events

- 2010 Protecting Our Children Conference, September 8-10
- A Safe Path to Keeping Your Home: Avoiding Foreclosure Scams! Accessing Help! September 9
- Neighborhood Fall Festival: A Multicultural Celebration September 11
- Immigration Reform 101 Webinar, September 14
- Women You Know, Women You Want to Meet, September 15
- LULAC Council 10 - 51st Annual Celebration Mexican Independence Fiesta September 18
- "Immigration and Community: Working Toward a Biblical Perspective", September 25
- Unity International Fest September 26
- Immigration Forum at DMACC Urban Campus, October 5
- 12th Iowa Latino Conference, October 15-16
- 2010 Mosaic Diversity Conference, October 18
- "On the Issues" Event, October 18
- Building Balance Youth Empowerment Conference, October 19-20
- Iowa Culture and Language Conference, November 1-3
- Different Colors of Violence Conference XI, December 16-17

## "Immigration and Community: Working Toward a Biblical Perspective" Conference at Dordt College

This very exciting conference will take place in Sioux Center on Saturday, September 25 from 9am - 3pm. The goal is to engage members of the academic community at Dordt College, Northwestern College and other area public and private schools, community, civic and religious leaders and interested community members in a day of learning about immigration.

The cost is only \$10, including registration, refreshments, noon meal and a book of your choice about immigration. There will be several opportunities for questions and discussion throughout the day.

You can [register online](#) or at the door.

### Civil Rights Outreach to the Latino Community

The increase understanding of state and federal fair civil rights laws within the Latino/a community, AmeriCorps VISTA members from the Iowa Civil Rights Commission will be together with the Iowa Immigration Education Coalition at two upcoming events. Attendees will be able to take a quiz on immigration myths and learn how to identify and report national origin discrimination.

The Commission believes the outreach and education efforts provide a means to educate citizens on laws, and reach out to businesses or landlords. According to Ralph Rosenberg, Director of the Commission, "Recently, the Commission used the 20th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) to teach Iowans about the ADA and how to comply with the ADA. The 45th anniversary of the Iowa Civil Rights Act provides a good opportunity to further other education and outreach efforts, which complement our enforcement powers, but also prevent discrimination from ever occurring the first time. Education all Iowans on how to avoid current or future violations— is always timely."

VISTA members will be at Iowa's Latino Heritage Festival in Des Moines on September 4th and 5th. They will then attend the Strengthening Latino/a Communities Conference on October 15th—16th in Iowa City. The Iowa Civil Rights Act, originally passed in 1965, protects all Iowans from discrimination based on list of protected characteristics including national origin, race, sex, physical disability, mental disability, religion, sexual orientation, and gender identity. Since 2006, the Commission has collaborated with local, state, and federal governments and the private sector to offer VISTA members to assist in outreach and education efforts and capacity building of local groups.

Any Iowan who has questions about discrimination complaint may contact the Iowa Civil Rights Commission at 1-800-457-4416 or visit its [website](#). All services provided by the commission are free and confidential.

## Mes De La Herencia Hispana

El mes de la Herencia Hispana comienza del 15 de Septiembre al 15 de Octubre, celebrando la Independencia de cinco países Latino-Americanos —Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua. Adicionalmente, Mexico declaró su independencia en Septiembre 16, y Chile en Septiembre 18.

En Estados Unidos el término Hispano, definido de acuerdo al Censo de los Estados Unidos, se refiere a las personas que hablan Español en los Estados Unidos de cualquier raza. De acuerdo al Censo personas de origen Español/Latino/Hispano se pudieran identificar a sí mismas como Mexicanas, Puerto Riqueñas, Cubanas, u "other Spanish/Hispanic/Latino." Más de 35 millones de personas se identificaron como Hispanos or Latinos.

El Centro Multicultural del Colegio de Indian Hills, invita a todas las personas de países de Habla Hispana a participar en su celebración de la Herencia Hispana que se celebrará el Sábado 2 de Octubre en el Ottumwa Campus.

Si usted quiere traer un platillo típico de su país, bailar danzas regionales/folklóricas ó sabe hacer trajes típicos ó quiere modelar uno, enseñar como hacer piñatas, etc. favor de contactarse con la patrocinadora del Club Multicultural lo más pronto posible.

Para mas informacion llama al Norma Rosales 641 683 5755.



## U.S. Council on Latino Affairs: Call to Action

On August 12, 2010 the USCLA held a meeting in Chicago, Illinois in conjunction with the United States Hispanic Leadership Institute (USHLI) gala dinner keynoted by former HUD Secretary Henry Cisneros. Our events in Chicago were dominated by the unfortunate and inaccurate "news frame" of Latinos present in the coverage of the contentious immigration debate by mainstream media, cable news programs, and local news.

As we celebrate the 47th anniversary of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech at the foot of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C. and as we approach the 9th anniversary of the Sept. 11th tragedies in New York, Pennsylvania and Washington, the USCLA wishes to issue a challenge to national Latino public service organizations and Hispanic media outlets.

As we pledge allegiance to our country: "One nation, Under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all", it is now incumbent upon us in the Latino community to actively work to change the narrative, challenge the stereotypes, and present the facts regarding our positive contributions and service to the United States of America.

For example, contrary to the perception that is amplified by the news media, the immigration debate is not exclusive to the Hispanic community and only a fraction of the Latino population is undocumented. Less than 100 years ago, "HELP WANTED: No Irish Need Apply" signs were posted outside shops and businesses in our major cities.

FBI crime statistics show that most major U.S. cities close to the Mexican border are among the safest in the country. The US Census reveals that the Latino population is among the fastest growing demographic in our country which translates directly into increased federal dollars, representation in Congress, and electoral college votes for many states. Latinos are serving our armed forces with distinction and many have paid the ultimate sacrifice in Iraq and Afghanistan for our country. As we approach Sept. 11th, our Hispanic soldiers who have lost their lives should be profiled and recognized for their service to our nation. Likewise, our Latino veterans should be featured and thanked for their service on Veteran's Day.

As our nation continues to struggle economically, our accomplishments in entrepreneurship, purchasing power, and, yes, the tax revenues provided by Latinos are helping fuel the economic recovery. International trade with Central and South America is also crucial to repair our nation's trade imbalance.

In conclusion, we must endeavor to truthfully tell our own story lest we be overshadowed by fear, myths and stereotypes in the coming months, years, and decades ahead. It is up to all of us. Please join our efforts to change the image of Hispanics in the United States. Si Se Puede!

The **United States Council on Latino Affairs** is composed of fellow directors of Latino Affairs commissions and agencies representing different states of the Union. The purpose of the USCLA is to foster camaraderie and friendship among the fellows, to promote Latino community priorities at the national level, and identify potential best practices for the agencies and programs each fellow represents.

### ACLU Celebration to Explore and Honor Civil Liberties in Iowa

Join the ACLU of Iowa Saturday, October 9 for a day-long conference on the state of civil liberties in Iowa with an optional celebration dinner to follow.

The 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration will take place at The Meadows in Altoona, near Des Moines. It includes a conference with six workshops and a luncheon keynote speaker, Robert Sheer, long-time journalist and public radio commentator. The evening banquet speaker is Jonathan Turley, law professor at George Washington University, who is a television legal expert and a House and Senate witness on constitutional and statutory issues.

Among the workshop speakers are John and Mary Beth Tinker, who were the plaintiffs in the landmark 1969 U.S. Supreme Court student Vietnam War black armband protest. Other workshops address minority incarceration, immigration, the media, religious freedom and national security, and marriage equality.

Rates for the conference start at \$20 (student) to \$40 (adult) if registered by October 4 (ticket to a fund-raising leadership reception and banquet not included). Banquet tickets are \$30 (student) and \$60 (adult) if registered by October 4 (conference and fund-raising leadership reception not included). For complete program information and registration visit [www.aclu-ia.org/about/coming2010.aspx](http://www.aclu-ia.org/about/coming2010.aspx).

### A SAFE PATH TO KEEPING YOUR HOME! AVOIDING FORECLOSURE SCAMS! ACCESSING HELP!

A FREE event for those facing possible home foreclosure






**September 9, 2010**

If you or someone you know is worried about losing a home to foreclosure, there is hope!

Attend this free event to learn about the **Iowa Mortgage Help** process and how to avoid foreclosure scams.

Homeowners in need of assistance will have full access to **Iowa Mortgage Help** housing counselors and Iowa Legal Aid attorneys to discuss their situation.

Homeowners should bring the following items to begin accessing help immediately:

-  List of monthly expenses
-  Last 2 pay stubs or other proof of income
-  2009 tax return
-  2 most recent months of bank statements
-  Your most recent statement from your lender and other letters or notices

**Iowa Mortgage Help** is a free-state sponsored program providing foreclosure prevention assistance to homeowners in need.

#### East Des Moines Event Center

2550 E. Euclid Avenue  
(next to Hy-Vee)

Des Moines

6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

515-278-1415



